Application filed by Smt. Indira Gandhi

SRI M. V. RAJASHEKARAN.—With regard to Mrs. Indra Gandhi, the Former Prime Minister, I would like to say that she has filed an application with the Electoral Officer in Doddaballapur taluk stating that.....

MR. SPEAKER.—Without giving notice, the Hon'ble Member can not speak about that matter.

SRI M. V. RAJASHEKARAN.—I have given the notice.

MR. SPEAKER.—We have not included it in the agenda.

SRI M. V. RAJASHEKARAN.—I am not asking the Hon'ble Speaker to take it up to-day. It may be taken up immediately either tomorrow or day after tomorrow. There is a likelihood of tampering of the record..... I have already written, I am only requesting you to consider it.

MR. SPEAKER.—I will look into it.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

re: Revision of Property Tax in Gulbarga City Municipality

SRI QAMARUL ISLAM (Gulbarga).— I call the attention of the Minister for Municipal Administration to the revision of property tax in Gulbarga City Municipality.

SRI H.C. SRIKANTAIAH (Minister for Municipal Administration).— I wish to make the following statement.—

The general revision of property taxes in Gulbarga City, was last done in the year 1958, under the provisions of the Hyderabad Municipalities Act and the same was enforced with effect from 1st April 1965. According to the provisions laid down in the Hyderabad District Municipality Act the property tax was assessed as under.—

1.	Annual rental value.		
2.	Deduct towards depreciation charges.	10%	of the annual rental value.
3.	Property tax on the balance	@ 15%	
4.	General Water Tax	@ $6\frac{1}{4}$%	
	Total ...	$21\frac{1}{4}$%	

According to the provisions laid down in the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964 which has been brought into force wi h effect from 1st April 1964, the property tax is to be levied as under Section 94 at the rates specified in Schedule No. 1 of the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964 as under.—

1. Annual rental value
2. Deduct towards depreciation charges 16 2/3% taxes levied as under.—

(i)	Property tax on the balance	@ 10%
(ii)	General Water Tax	@ 7%
(iii)	General Sanitary Tax	@ 4%
(iv)	Lighting Tax	@ 3%
	Total ...	24%

Section 94 of the Act was amended by Karnataka Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1976 enhancing the property Tax to 17½% in the case of Town Municipal Councils and 20% in the case of City Municipal Councils. Circular instructions have been issued to take up the revision of assessment in accordance with the amended Act.

As the taxes were last revised in the year 1958 and as the revised tax is proposed to be levied after a period of 20 years, the public are apprehensive at the enhanced taxes which are based upon actual facts and figures.

In view of the slender finances of the Municipality and in order to provide the basic minimum civic amenities to the public, it is imperative that the taxes should be revised, and it is incorrect to say that the revision of taxes is done without any basis.

There is ample scope under Sections 107 and 150 of the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964 for appeals. Therefore there is much scope for the objectors in the case to approach the revising authority and convince him about the assessment made by the Assessing Officer.

SRI QUAMARUL ISLAM.— I don't have any objection to what has been stated in first and second paras on page No. 1 of your statement but in Page 2, you have stated as follows.—

> "As the taxes were last revised in the year 1958 and as the revised tax is proposed to be levied after a period of 20 years, the public are apprehensive the enhanced taxes which are based upon actual facts and figures."

This is baseless. My contention is this. This is an Act called Rent Control Act. Under it, the rent fixed by the Assessing Authority of the Municipality should not exceed the limit prescribed in the Rent Control Act. There is a clear Supreme Court decision on page 151, AIR 1962 on this matter In that case, for a particular premises. it was fixed at Rs. 1450/—. The tax was assessed by the Calcutta Corporation. He has filed a case in the High Court against the assessment made by the Corporation. The Court fixed the entire rental value as Rs. 681/- and the Corporation has filed an appeal in the Supreme Court. Ther is a clear decision of the Supreme Court that rental value of the premises cannot be fixed higher than the tax to be paid. The rent should be fixed according to Rent Control Act. The same position is with regard to Gulbarga. There is a building leased to a party by the landlord for a period of 10 years. He is getting the rent through cheque. In this case the assessing authority fixed the rental value more than what he is getting. It is clearly defined in the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964.....

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು.— ನಾನು ಎನನ್ನು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇನೆಂದರೆ ನೀವು ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಗಮನ ವನ್ನು ಸೆಳೆದಾಗ ಅವರು ಸ್ಟೇಟಮೆಂಟ್ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆಮೇಲೆ ೧-೨ ವಿವರಣೆ ಕೇಳಬಹುದು. ಅದನ್ನೆಲ್ಲಾ ಓದಬೇಡಿ.

SRI QUMARUL ISLAM —Supposing if they go against law.

MR. SPEAKER.—Now the Member can ask only the clarification. He cannot read the Act and other details He has to follow the convention and nothing else.

SRI H.C. SRIKANTAIAH.—Sir, I request the hon Member to come to my chamber to discuss this matter. We have not done anything against law. Let us sit together and take a decision. I will call the Officers concerned and ask them to examine this.

(*ii*) *re : neglect of certain communities in the matter of employment and educational opportunities.*

SRI H. GANGADHARAN (Krishanaraja)—Mr. Speaker, Sir, I call the attention of the Minister for Law, Social Welfare and Backward Classes to the neglect certain communities in the matter of employment and educational opportunities.

SRI L. G. HAVANUR (Minister for Law, Social Welfare and Backward Classes)—Sir, I beg to make the following statement.

It is urged under the pretext of following the principles of Havanur's Commission Report, certain classes of persons are deprived of the jobs and admissions into various educational institutions. It alleged that they are neglected at present by the Officers of the